

SENATE BILL 2585
By Ketron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
Chapter 8, Part 1 and Title 2, Chapter 17, Part 1,
relative to election contests.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 8, Part 1, is amended by
adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 2-8-117. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, if, after all
votes have been counted in any election, the vote margin separating the two (2)
candidates receiving the greatest number of votes is within one-half (1/2) of one percent
(1%) of the total votes cast in that election; then, prior to certification of the results, an
automatic and complete recount of all ballots cast in the election shall be conducted in
accordance with the rules of the state election commission. The recount shall be
supervised and moderated by the state election commission or its official designees and
shall be observed by the candidates or their official designees.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-8-101(a), is amended by adding
the following language at the end of the subsection:

However, if an automatic and complete recount of all ballots cast in an election is
required by the provisions of § 2-8-117, then the deadline for the county election
commission to certify the results of that election shall be extended at least one (1) week.
For good cause, the deadline may be extended further at the discretion of the state
election commission.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-17-117, is amended by
adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

(c) If an automatic and complete recount of all ballots cast in an election is conducted in accordance with the requirements of § 2-8-117, then an additional recount pursuant to this section shall not be ordered.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.